Webera Proligera in Amesbury, Mass.

There is a small brook in this town about a mile in length, flowing through sandy land and emptying into the Merrimac river. For some distance from the head of this stream the banks are covered with various mosses, but I have never found any of the Webera group; the brook is then joined by another rivulet which has cut for itself a channel in the live sand some thirty feet in depth. These banks of wet sand are densely covered with *Webera proligera* (Lind) Kind. From this place on, both banks of the brook are covered with this moss, although hardly any fruit can be found anywhere It is easy to see how this wonderful multiplication is brought about, for in the autumn one can find plenty of the peculiar bulbils which grow on the stem of this moss near its apex, but in the spring these growths are mostly gone. In the winter season the banks are covered with ice and snow and deposit them in the mud further down, thus producing plants all along.—*J. W. Huntington in Rhodora for April, 1901.*

In the Journal of the New York Botanical Garden for May, 1901, Mrs. Britton has a very interesting note on *Physcomitrium turbinatum* and its variations. Plants grown from earth potted in September in comparative darkness in the green houses with steam pipes overhead, matured capsules by January but the plants were small with setae about one cm. long. In January the pots were removed to more favorable positions with bottom heat and more light when spores from the same pots and undoubtedly of the same kind, developed plants with setae twice as long, of a lighter color, and with smaller and more turbinate capsules. These last in every way resembled the Louisiana specimens which have been called var. Langloisii R. & C. The roughness of the spore, the amount of thickening of the elongated cells around the mouth, the shape of the capsules and the amount of contraction below the mouthwhen, were all found to be dependent upon the stage ot development reached by the plants before becoming dry and shrivelled. "So that the amount of rain in spring would alter and control these characters and cause considerable variation, even in the same patch." As these are just the characters upon which many varietal and specific distinctions are based, it is easy to see the importance of Mrs. Britton's observations. *A. J. G.*

NOTES ON RARE AND LITTLE KNOWN MOSSES.

By J. M. Holzinger.

DITRICHUM ELATUM Kindb. For years I have collected near Winona a sterile moss the generic relationship of which I could not satisfactorily determine. Not more successful were several of my bryological friends to whom I submitted it. To Mr. W. C. Nicholson is due the credit of placing it in the vicinity of *Ditrichum flexicaule densum* (Schimp.). There-